

Attorney Docket No. 03704/LH

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
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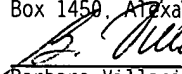
Date of Deposit: December 1, 2003

Applicant(s): S. MATSUSHITA et al

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Serial No. : Not yet assigned

Filed : Herewith


Barbara Villani

For : PIPELAYER

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Art Unit :
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


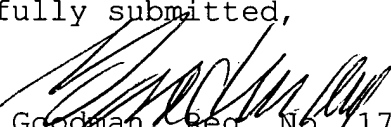
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S I R :

It is respectfully requested that the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A be considered and made of record. Copies of the Japanese documents (with English Abstracts) is submitted herewith.

The U.S. patent publications identified on said form PTO/SB/08A are not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications for U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. See the USPTO Notice dated July 11, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

 
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number		
				Filing Date		Herewith
				First Named Inventor		MATSUSHITA
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		03704/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
		3,785,503		Butterfield et al	01-15-1974	
		3,941,252		Six et al	03-02-1976	
		3,990,583		Nishida et al	11-09-1976	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	49-24620		KAWAHASHI	06-24-1974		X*
		JP	49-100746		NISHIDA ET AL	09-24-1974		X*
		JP	49-100747		KAWAHASHI ET AL	09-24-1974		X*
		JP	49-111971		KAWAHASHI	09-25-1974		X*
		JP	50-67607		KUROKAWA	06-17-1975		X*
		JP	52-100669		SAKITA	07-30-1977		X*
		JP	60-13960		SIX ET AL	04-10-1985		X*
			*English abstract attached.					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

² Unique citation designation number. ³ See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. * Place a check here if English translation is attached.

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